

Remarks

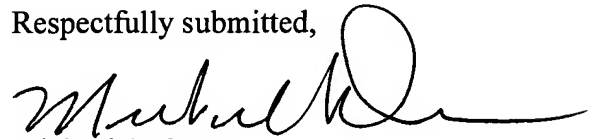
In reply to the official action of July 18, 2006, **Applicants elect group I claims 17-37 for examination with traverse.**

The Examiner in the restriction requirement has applied U.S. Restriction requirement rules in a PCT Application which is entirely improper. Unity of invention rules for international applications are the appropriate rules to apply.

The Examiner is directed to PCT Rule 13.1 "The international application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept". It is clear that there is a single unifying inventive concept "special technical features" contained in all claims, i.e. "A sealing jaw system comprising a sealing jaw, for manufacturing a sealing seam (19) in a heat-sealable material for a package, with a sealing surface that is provided for coming into contact with the heat-sealable material, and at least one rod or bar-shaped heating device is provided for heating the heat-sealable material, wherein at least one pressure element (23) is provided on the sealing surface, projecting above the sealing surface and at a distance from the heating device (22)."

The restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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